

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. An image forming apparatus capable of being
contained in a container stand as a placement stand,
said container being separate from said image forming
5 apparatus.

2. An image forming apparatus according to Claim
1, wherein said apparatus is used in a mode of
horizontal placement at the time of forming images, and
10 capable of being contained in a mode of vertical
placement at the time of non-use adopting the mode
having said apparatus to be contained in said container
stand.

15 3. An image forming apparatus according to Claim
1, further comprising:
a battery; and
charging means for charging said battery, wherein
the charging of said battery is conducted by containing
20 the apparatus in said container stand at the time of
non-use.

4. An image forming apparatus according to Claim
3, wherein said battery and said charging means are
25 incorporated in a charging device structured to be
attachable to and detachable from said image forming

apparatus, and the charging of said battery is conducted by containing in said container stand said charging device in the status of being mounted on said image forming apparatus.

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5. An image forming apparatus according to Claim 4, wherein on the backside of said charging device, the contact point portion is provided, and the contact terminal portion is provided for said container stand, and said contact point portion and said contact terminal portion are electrically connected by containing said image forming apparatus having said charging device mounted thereon in said container stand.

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6. An image forming apparatus according to Claim 5, wherein the contact point portion of said charging device, and said contact terminal portion of said container stand are arranged in the central portion of the connecting surface of said charging device and said container stand, respectively, and are in a symmetrical mode.

7. An image forming apparatus according to Claim 6, wherein said cradle is provided with a shutter mechanism for protecting said contact terminal portion,

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and said shutter mechanism retracts by containing said image forming apparatus having said charging device mounted thereon in said container stand.

5 8. An image forming apparatus according to Claim 7, wherein the load required for pressurizing said contact terminal portion to be in contact and retracting said shutter mechanism is smaller than the weight of said charging device alone.

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 9. An image forming apparatus according to Claim 4, wherein said charging device is provided with a portion to hide the DC jack for input use for said image forming apparatus, and when said image forming
15 apparatus having said charging device mounted thereon is contained in said container stand, the structural portion of said container stand covers said jack for DC input use of said charging device.

20 10. An image forming apparatus according to Claim 3, wherein said battery is incorporated in said image forming apparatus, and said charging means is incorporated in said container stand, and said battery is charged when said image forming apparatus is
25 contained in said container stand.

11. An image forming apparatus according to Claim
1, wherein on the backside of said image forming
apparatus the contact point portion is provided, and
the contact terminal portion is provided for said
5 container stand, and said contact point portion and
said contact terminal portion are electrically
connected by containing said image forming apparatus
having said charging device mounted thereon in said
container stand.

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12. An image forming apparatus according to Claim
1, wherein the contact point portion of said image
forming apparatus and said contact terminal portion of
said container stand are arranged in the central
15 portion of the connecting surface of said charging
device and said container stand, respectively, and are
in a symmetrical mode.

13. An image forming apparatus according to Claim
20 5, wherein said container stand is provided with a
shutter mechanism for protecting said contact terminal
portion, and said shutter mechanism retracts by
containing said image forming apparatus having said
charging device mounted thereon in said container
25 stand.

14. An image forming apparatus according to Claim
5, wherein the load required for pressurizing said
contact terminal portion to be in contact and
retracting said shutter mechanism is smaller than the
5 weight of said image forming apparatus.

15. An image forming apparatus according to Claim
3, wherein either said charging device or said image
forming apparatus is provided with indication means for
10 showing the charging condition of said battery, and
said indication means is structured to be recognizable
even when said image forming apparatus is contained in
said container stand.

15 16. An image forming apparatus according to Claim
5, wherein said indication means for showing the
charging condition of the battery is recognizable even
when said image forming apparatus is contained in said
container stand in any direction, forward or backward,
20 and said contact point portion and said contact
terminal portion are electrically connectable.

17. An image forming apparatus according to Claim
1, wherein a recording sheet supply tray dually
25 functioning as a cover capable of being open and closed
with respect to said image forming apparatus is

structured not to open when said image forming
apparatus is contained in said container stand.

18. An image forming apparatus according to Claim
5 1, wherein said image forming apparatus can be
contained in said container stand in the status having
an I/F cable connected thereto.